

The attached suggestion should be declined for the following reasons:

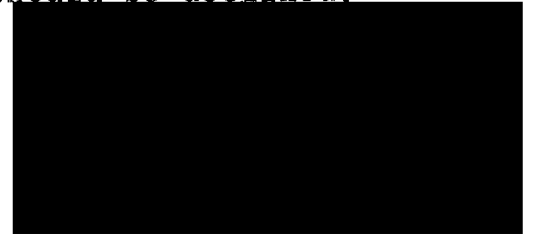
Video recording is useful only in a completely electronic environment (i.e., T.V. broadcasting) where electronic recording and instant replay are advantageous. These attributes do not seem to be present in the proposed system. Recorders and receivers would have to be procured, and the tape moved by courier from point to point. Hence, we can presume that time is not of the essence. Motion picture techniques, either black and white or color, would serve the same purpose and be more effective because:

1. In-house processing time can be as low as 30 minutes, outside processing in one day or less.
2. Copies can be made.
3. Film can be edited. (The proposed tape cannot.)
4. Film resolution is higher. (The proposed tape would not be satisfactory for graphs, documents and other fine grain information, since it is basically a 525 line system. The Ampex Videofile uses 1280 lines for documents.)
5. T.V. recorders, because of special equalization, head switching transients, and limited bandwidth (4.2 MHZ at best) are not suitable for ELINT signal analysis.
6. Interchangeability of tape from recorder to recorder can be done only if the equipment is kept in peak operating condition, thereby posing a maintenance problem.
7. There would be a heavy expense in supplying reproducers to outside users, plus an operation and maintenance training problem. (Inexpensive or expensive, T.V. recorders are not the simplest nor most reliable of instruments.) The use of film entails inexpensive projectors, the operation of which are familiar to most people.

8. The cost summary shows equipment for only one field station, and would increase as more stations are outfitted. The costs would be considerably lower if professional motion picture cameras and high quality sound projectors were used.

The suggestion recognizes the advantages of film, since it proposes using film after the Video Recorder phase. The need for sound technicians, etc., are common to both Video Recording and film productions, and there is no inherent saving in this area.

Presuming there is a need for communications of the nature described in the suggestion (and the need is problematical), there appears to be little, if any merit in the proposed system, and it should be declined.



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